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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Shinji Inoue

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SMITH PATENT OFFICE

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EXAMINER

SORRELL, ERON J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2182

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 6/28/10 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues:

1) Ueda et al. do not disclose a card controller for issuing a switching command to switch an area of an attached recording medium according to an operation from the switching part as claimed in independent claim 1. Also, Ueda et al. do not disclose a card control step of issuing a switching command to switch an area of an attached recording medium when said switching step is operated as claimed in independent claim 16.

Specifically, applicants respectfully submit that Ueda et al. do not disclose a recording medium access device which is separated from a recording medium (emphasis added). Because of this configuration, Ueda et al. do not disclose a card controller for issuing a switching command to the recording medium (see first 3 paragraphs of page 18 of applicants remarks).

2. As per argument 1, the Examiner disagrees. There is no claim language requiring the recording medium access device being separated from a recording medium. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). The

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claim recites the recording medium is attached. Ueda (item M in figure 2) and Minami (see figure 2) both teach an attached, or connected, recording medium.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERON J. SORRELL whose telephone number is (571)272-4160. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on 571-272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Eron J Sorrell/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2182
7/8/2010